

## HOUSE BILL 17-1131

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Kraft-Tharp and Saine, Winter, Nordberg, Becker K., Esgar, Exum, Ginal, Hooton, Lontine, McLachlan, Pettersen, Duran;

also SENATOR(S) Smallwood and Donovan, Neville T., Jahn, Crowder, Fields, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Scott, Todd.

CONCERNING CONTRACTING BY THE COLORADO STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-201, amend (1) as follows:

23-18-201. College opportunity fund program - creation - eligibility - guidelines. (1) There is hereby created in the department of higher education the college opportunity fund program, which shall be is administered by the Colorado student loan program. On and after July 1, 2015, the Colorado student loan program May enter into an agreement with the department or another state entity to administer all or part of the college opportunity fund program. The college opportunity fund, created in section 23-18-202, shall-be is a

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

trust fund for the benefit of eligible undergraduate students. It shall-consist CONSISTS of a stipend for each undergraduate student in Colorado who applies for the stipend and who is admitted and registers to attend a state or participating private institution of higher education and is determined to be eligible by the Colorado student loan program to receive a stipend. An eligible undergraduate student may use the stipend for undergraduate courses and graduate-level courses that apply toward the student's undergraduate degree that are taken at a state or participating private institution of higher education at a fixed rate per credit hour, set annually by the general assembly.

**SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.1-106, add (4) as follows:

**23-3.1-106.** Student loan program established. (4) ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2015, THE COLORADO STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OR ANOTHER STATE ENTITY TO ADMINISTER ALL OR PART OF THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND PROGRAM CREATED IN PARTS 1 AND 2 OF ARTICLE 18 OF THIS TITLE 23.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,

determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Crisanta Duran

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Kevin J. Grantham PRESIDENT OF

THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins

CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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OF REPRESENTATIVES

Effie Ameen

SECRETARY OF

THE SENATE

APPROVED 7:31 PM

John W. Hickenlooper

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO